

The second component of the new pay system is market pay. This element will be implemented by the Secretary in the form of pay bands that will be determined by surveys of regional salaries in the academic and private sectors. Also relevant to the market pay determinations are factors such as the scarcity—or abundance—of certain specialty physicians, type and years of experience, and board certifications. Finally, the Secretary will consult with professional review panels composed of other physicians or dentists.

The final component is performance pay. Performance pay will be awarded to doctors and dentists if they meet certain goals and measures set forth by the Secretary. Currently, VA has extensive performance measures that it utilizes to motivate its health care providers and ensure quality of care. This element has a maximum of \$15,000 or 7.5 percent of the sum of the base and market pay.

One other major section of this agreement establishes alternative work schedules for VA nurses. It is widely known that the entire country is suffering from a nursing shortage. VA anticipates that it will be hit especially hard by the retirement of a significant portion of its nursing workforce over the next 10 years. S. 2484 allows VA to employ different types of working schedules in order to attract more nurses to the system.

I am proud to have worked on this valuable piece of legislation for our Nation's veterans.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the substitute amendment at the desk be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the amendment to the title be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid on the table en bloc, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (2973) was agreed to. (The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The bill (S. 2484), as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read:

"An Act to amend title 38, United States Code, to simplify and improve pay provisions for physicians and dentists and to authorize alternate work schedules and executive pay for nurses, and for other purposes."

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2004

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 6. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be

deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and there then be a period of morning business for up to 30 minutes, with the first half under the control of the majority leader and the second half under the control of the minority leader; further, that the Senate then resume consideration of S. 2845, the intelligence reform bill, as provided under the previous order; provided further that the debate prior to 11:30 be equally divided between the two managers, and that 15 minutes of that time be under the control of Senators WARNER and LEVIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, tomorrow morning the Senate will continue debate on the intelligence reform bill. Under a previous order, at 11:30 a.m. there will be a series of stacked votes on amendments to the bill. Following those votes, the Senate will continue working through the remaining amendments to the bill, and Senators should expect votes throughout the day.

I remind my colleagues that postcloture debate will expire late tomorrow afternoon. If we use all the remaining time, Senators should expect a stacked series of votes which will include any remaining pending amendments and final passage. It is my hope that we will not use all postcloture debate time.

In addition, I encourage Members to work together to dispose of as many amendments as possible in order to avoid a "mini vote-arama." Tomorrow will be a very busy day. I ask all Senators to plan accordingly.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator TALENT.

THANKING SENATORS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, shortly I will go into a quorum call while we wait a few minutes for Senator TALENT, but let me thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle. We have had a very productive day, a very productive week. We set out with an objective several weeks ago of completing this very important intelligence reform bill. With the cooperation of all of our colleagues, we will complete this bill tomorrow.

Following completion of that bill, we will proceed to our internal Senate oversight reforms, and look forward to hopefully addressing that late tomorrow afternoon.

There are a number of other issues we laid out in the course of the day

that are underway, including the FSC/ETI jobs manufacturing bill and the Homeland Security Appropriations bill. So we have a lot of work to do in a short period of time during the remainder of this week.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ILLUMINATION OF THE GATEWAY ARCH IN ST. LOUIS

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I rise tonight in support of legislation which I have sponsored along with Senator BOND that would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to illuminate the gateway arch with pink lighting in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. I want to say how much I appreciate the cooperation from both sides of the aisle on this important measure so that we can get it done and passed in time to honor those who have struggled against this disease during that month which has been set aside to recognize what they have done.

It is amazing how many American families have been touched by this disease. Speaking personally, my mother fought and eventually lost the battle against breast cancer. Her struggle certainly had a profound impact on me and on my family.

Currently, breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths for women in the United States. Approximately 40,000 women in this country will die from the disease in 2004, and the American Cancer Society estimates that a woman in the United States has a 1 in 7 chance of developing invasive breast cancer during her lifetime, and this risk was 1 in 11 in 1975.

For the past 20 years, October has been designated as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Events around the world are dedicated to spreading the message of early detection so that prevention and the ongoing search for a cure can continue. Throughout the month, women are reminded in many ways that regular screening for breast cancer continues to be the most effective way to detect this disease in its earliest stages and therefore save lives.

Recently, I was contacted by a group of Missourians who wanted to highlight the need for breast cancer awareness. They wanted to illuminate the arch, which is, of course, a landmark not only in Missouri but in the country—a landmark with both national and local significance. They wanted to illuminate it with pink lighting in order to commemorate Breast Cancer Awareness Month. People everywhere associate the pink ribbon and the color pink as a symbol of breast cancer

awareness and the ongoing search for the cure.

Lighting the arch with pink lighting will also recognize the millions of women who are currently battling breast cancer and those who have lost their lives fighting their disease.

The bill I introduced will give the Secretary of the Interior the authority to allow for that kind of lighting of the arch one night in October. I am hopeful that women not only in Missouri but all around the country and around the world will see the arch and take the message of that lighting to heart.

I am very grateful to the majority leadership and the Democratic leadership as well for clearing this bill. I am grateful to the Senate for passing it by unanimous consent this evening.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in adjournment until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:17 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, October 6, 2004, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate October 5, 2004:

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD

RONALD ROSENFELD, OF OKLAHOMA, TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING FEBRUARY 27, 2009, VICE JOHN THOMAS KORSMO, RESIGNED.

MORRIS K. UDALL SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY FOUNDATION

MICHAEL BUTLER, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MORRIS K. UDALL SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2008, VICE ERIC D. EBERHARD, TERM EXPIRED.